



# The Yardarm

November/December 2009

A Publication of *THE NEW LONDON POWER SQUADRON*  
a Unit of District 1, United States Power Squadrons®.

*SAIL AND POWER BOATING*  
Chartered 14 April, 1939



## The Cdr's View

*Chris Jordan, AP*



Greetings everyone,

We'll I hate to admit it, but I guess It's time to put yet another boating season to bed. The wonderful Indian Summer that I had hoped for in October didn't *exactly* materialize. That's OK. I still had a good boating season with much to be grateful for.

Many of you remember the thrill and excitement of America's first manned moon missions with the Apollo spacecraft. Yet, there are many people, myself included, that are far too young to have any recollection of the moon missions, or weren't even born yet. However, 40 years later, America has committed itself to returning to the moon. The Constellation moon rocket that will return men and women to the moon is scheduled to be tested (launched) very shortly. In fact, it may have already been tested by the time you read this. This is especially exciting for me because I will get to experience the moon landings as many of you did.

What has the new Constellation moon rocket got to do with the Squadron? Well, as exciting as the prospect is of returning to the moon, **HARDLY ANYONE** knows about it. Just as **HARDLY ANYONE** outside USPS knows about all the benefits of membership in USPS. For some of you, this is not the first time you have heard me draw the analogy between the NASA moon missions and USPS.

At our public boating courses, there is a common "tag line" that is present in many of the educational materials that students are exposed to. "Boating is fun, we'll show you how". The question that might be asked is "Yes, but is USPS fun?" Of course the answer is YES, but I'm not sure that we do a great job of conveying that to the public. Very few people know that we are just as great a social organization as we are an educational organization. We need new, fresh ideas to convey this to the public. We can no longer rely heavily on the Public Boating Course to draw in new members. The numbers just aren't there, and they haven't been there for some time.

I have something to ask from each of you. What I am going to ask is going to be an exceptionally tall order. I know that it will not be easy. What I am asking is that over the fall and winter, each and every one of you recruits **ONE** new member into the NLPS. I'm not asking that you go on a recruiting drive and get two or three new members a month. I am asking for everyone to bring just **ONE** new member. I am sure that you all have boating neighbors, friends, yacht club members, fishing buddies, or sailing partners.

There is no better way to get through the winter boating blues, than to Join USPS and participate in any one of our social activities, outings, or classes. If you are looking *(Continued page 2)*

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4— **Come Par-  
ticipate with NLPS in the  
Light Parade!!!!**

7— Looking Back



Visit us at: <http://www.newlondonpowersquadron.org>

### 2009- 2010 Bridge of the NLPS

Commander	Cdr. Christopher Jordan, P	pelagic104@sbcglobal.net	(860) 908-0688
Executive Officer	vacant		
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Treasurer	Lt/C Jon. D. Peterson, AP	guide@rental_guide.com	(860) 444-2808
Educational Officer	Lt/C Harrison L. Jewett, SN	ht_juet@sbcglobal.net	(860) 443-6499
Asst. Educ. Officer	1st Lt Christopher Wick, JN	mischief@snet.net	(860)536-1840
Asst. Treasurer			
Membership	vacant		
Past Commander	P/C Anthony Salzarulo	Salzarulo@comcast.net	(860) 267-7073

## The Yardarm

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### CALENDAR

[www.newlondonpowersquadron.org](http://www.newlondonpowersquadron.org)



### NLPS Events

**7 December** — Executive Board Meeting and Holiday Gathering; home of Secretary Eleanor Mariani, ALL MEMBERS WELCOME!!!, 16 Wilson Avenue, Quaker Hill (860 442-8007)

**13 December** — NLPS is entering a float in the East Lyme Light Parade; 5pm. See page 4 for details; come help us get in the holiday spirit!!!!!!

### Other Events

**12 December** — D/1 Holiday Party, Manchester CC (see page 6)



### SAVE THE DATE!!!!



### Sail Trim and Rig Tuning Seminar

2 hour seminar

Saturday, January 23

10am

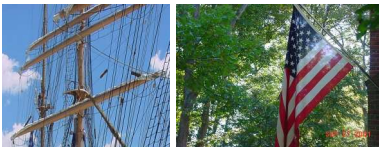
Waterford Police Department

*(Continued from page 1)*

for more, there are plenty of opportunities to serve your squadron on the Bridge. Why not come to the District 1 fall Conference on November 14?

We have much planned for our Squadron to get us through until spring. There has never been a better time to join NLPS.

Fair Winds and Tight Lines  
Commander Christopher Jordan



## SEO News

Lea Jewett, SEO



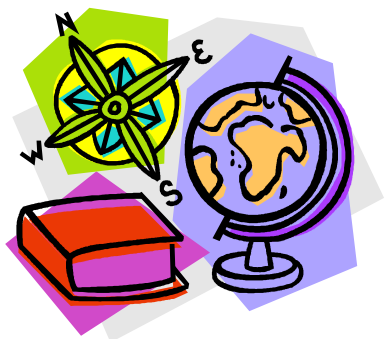
ABC3 has finished. Class had 5 students with 4 taking the exam. All four passed.

Navigation 09 is a work in progress with 4 students.

Looking to run an elective course in the spring (Weather 09 is the leading candidate).

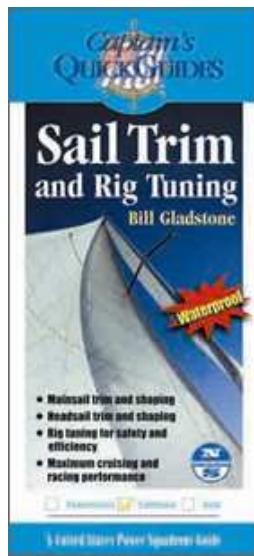
Consider taking one of the 2 hour seminars offered by USPS. The seminar *Sail Trim and Rig Tuning* will be taught January 23, 2010 from 10am until noon at the Waterford Police Department. Chris Wick and Mark Chanski will teach the seminar. Both instructors have years of sailing and racing experience in a variety of sailboats. Proctors and monitors are needed.

The early spring ABC3 course will again be held at Waterford High School beginning February 23.



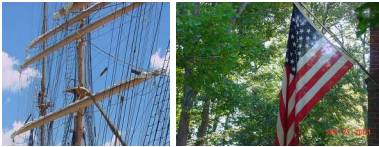
The Executive Board wishes you and yours a wonderful holiday season and a happy and healthy New Year

Weatherproof Guide  
Included



This seminar shows in clear and simple terms how to use and adjust sails for optimum performance under a wide range of conditions. The seminar comes with a waterproof USPS *Captain's Quick Guide* written by North Sails and *Student Notes*.

- ◆ Sail Terminology
- ◆ Rigging Terminology
- ◆ Trimming Tools
  - ◆ Sails
- ◆ Wind Flow on Sails
- ◆ Sail Twist and Tensioning
  - ◆ Mainsails
  - ◆ Headsails
  - ◆ Jibs/Genoas
- ◆ Mainsail/Headsail Trim and Shaping
- ◆ Rig tuning for Safety and Efficiency
  - ◆ Maximum Performance



## Join Us for the 21st East Lyme Light Parade

(the largest and longest running parade in New England)

**When:** Sunday, December 13, 2009, 5pm

(Raindate: Monday the 14th, 6pm)

**Where:** Downtown Niantic

NLPS will put a float into the parade!!!! Other Squadrons Welcome!

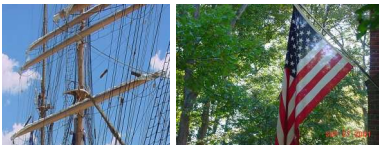
Needed: People to help put the float together (lights on a trailered boat)  
People to march in the parade—be to staging area between 3—4pm  
People to cheer us on

This promises to be a fun event. Come support the Squadron!!!!

If you have always wanted to be in the East Lyme Light Parade....this is your chance!!!

Call Commander Chris Jordan if you  
want to help in any capacity!!  
Cell Phone: 860-908-0688

Donate a non-perishable item for one of  
the mobile donation floats



## Rules to Live By

By Jack Kurrus, SN



In this issue we continue to review the Rules of the Nautical in Part C Lights and Shapes, looking at Rules 24, Towing and Pushing. But because this is a rather lengthy Rule so we will break it into two parts and look at the second half next month. This Rule 24 is a very important rule to be well versed in if you're doing any night sailing. Back in 1987 a 30' - 40' motor yacht, named the "Karen E" came to grief while crossing the Sound at night near Plum Gut. Apparently the Karen E. crossed behind a large tug in tow, going across the submerged catenary of the tow cable not knowing there was a large barge following. Several people lost their lives in this tragedy. It was clearly a case where the Skipper of the Karen E didn't recognize the tow lights carried by the tug boat.

**Rule 24 Definitions** *Note: International and Inland Rule 24 virtually the same. Inland Rules differences will be included in*

*bold italics.*

(a) A power driven vessel when towing shall exhibit:

(i) Instead of the light prescribed in Rule 23(a)(i) or (a)(ii), two mast head masthead lights in a vertical line. When the length of the tow, measuring from the stern of the towing vessel to the after end of the tow exceeds 200 meters, three such lights in a vertical line;

(ii) sidelights;

(iii) a sternlight;

(iv) a towing light in a vertical line above the sternlight;

(v) when the length of the tow exceeds 200 meters, a diamond shape where it can best be seen.

(b) When a pushing vessel and a vessel being pushed ahead are rigidly connected in a composite unit they shall be regarded as a power driven vessel and exhibit the lights prescribed in Rule 23.

(c) A power-driven vessel when pushing ahead or towing alongside, except in the case of composite units, shall exhibit:

(i) instead of the lights prescribed in Rule 23(a)(i) or (a)(ii), two masthead lights in a

vertical line;

(ii) sidelights;

(iii) a sternlight. ***Inland - (iii) Two towing lights in a vertical line.***

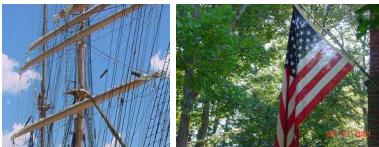
(d) A power-driven vessel to which paragraph (a) or (c) of this Rule shall also comply with Rule 23 (a) (ii).

Please take time to look up the illustrations of these lights in your copy of the Rule of the Nautical Road book. These are really a must know for all sailors who sail on after sundown. While there are many more light combinations these lights described here are the ones your most apt to see at the Eastern end of Long Island Sound where we all sail.

Note: Sources for this article were:

(a) Handbook of the Nautical Rules of the Road - Llana & Wisnesky

(b) Farwell's Rules of the Nautical Road - Craig H. Allen



# District Holiday Party



**When:** Saturday, December 12, 2009

**Where:** Manchester Country Club

**What Time:** 1800—2330



1800 cash bar

1900 Buffet

Features 50 and 60's theme

**Cost:** \$30.00 per person

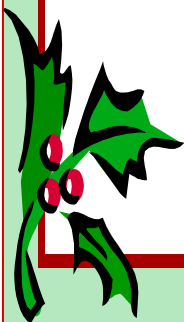


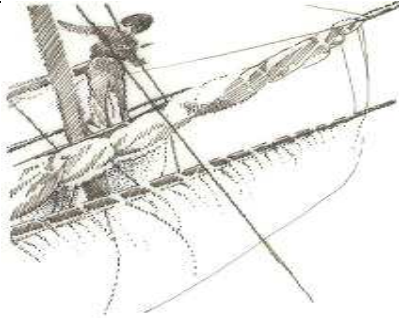
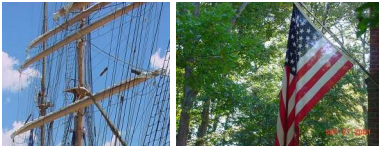
Music by :  
Don and Nina Sawyer  
Of the Westerly Power Squadron

Prize for best costume

Bring  
Unwrapped toy  
"Toys for Tots"

**See Commander Chris Jordan for tickets**





# Looking Back

## OVER THE YARDARM



By Jack Kurrus

### 25 YEARS AGO

#### November 1984

*Then Cdr John Robinson always has a novel way of making his point and his message for November 1984 is right up to his standards.*

Our regular monthly meeting falls five days after Thanksgiving so we would like to wish all of you a happy Thanksgiving Day. Better yet, show up at the Morton house on Monday, November 26, for our regular meeting, and I will personally give you my thanks and wishes. At this meeting we are going to have a notable guest speaker, Mrs. Lucille Showalter, local Historian and President of New London Maritime Society. Questions will be answered afterwards.

As you all know, we have an extensive educational program in advanced courses and elective courses. We have social programs such as picnics, Predicted Log Contests, hauling out parties, rendezvous, sail contests, founders day parties, etc. **Now to promote all the efforts, we need your dues to be paid now—so please make it easy for the treasurer.** The Officers of the Rude and Heck of the NOAA(National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration) were most appreciative of being invited to our Hauling-

Out Party and the good time they had. If you can't make the dinner on November 26th, come for the meeting at eight thirty.

John Robinson  
Commander

### 50 YEARS AGO

#### November 1959

#### TICKETS !

#### FOR "CHRISTMAS DINNER DANCE

When: Monday 14 Dec. 1959

Where: At the Sun Ray Room in the Crocker House.

Time: Social Hour 1830– 1900

Dinner: 1900

Dancing 2100—2400

Tickets are on sale now for Power Squadron couples and Alpha Mates and there Escorts.

Roast Beef \$3.00 , Roast Chicken \$2.50, Lobster \$3.25

Come celebrate the holidays:

District 1 Holiday Party, December 12

(see page 6)

Participate with NLPS in the East Lyme  
Light Parade!!!!

We're putting in a float!!!!!!

December 13

(see page 4)

**The Pledge of the United States Power Squadrons:**

I do solemnly pledge to:

Abide by the bylaws of the United States Power Squadrons;

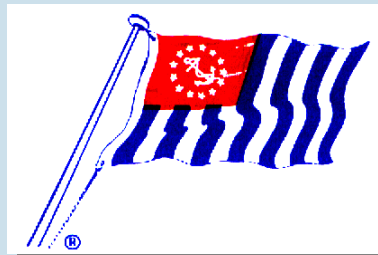
Promote high standards of navigation and seamanship;

Maintain my boat and operate it legally;

Render assistance whenever possible; and

Conduct myself in a manner that will add prestige, honor,

and respect to the United States Power Squadrons.



Members are encouraged to submit articles. Deadlines for submission of Articles for publication in **THE YARDARM** is the **15th day of the month** for publication the following month. *We reserve the right to edit any and all material to accommodate space needs.* All opinions expressed are those of the author and not necessarily those of The New London Power Squadron or The United States Power Squadrons, or the Editor of this publication. Other NLPS publications have permission to use articles and photo's from this publication **with proper attribution** to **The Yardarm** and or the author of the article.

Please contact the Editor directly at **860 442-8007** or **[eleanor\\_c\\_mari8123@sbcglobal.net](mailto:eleanor_c_mari8123@sbcglobal.net)** for further information.

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**SAIL AND POWER BOATING**

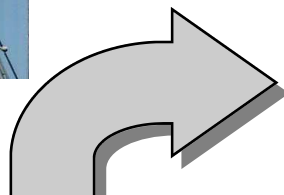
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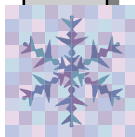
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TO:



Our On-Line Readers



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